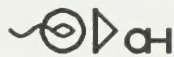
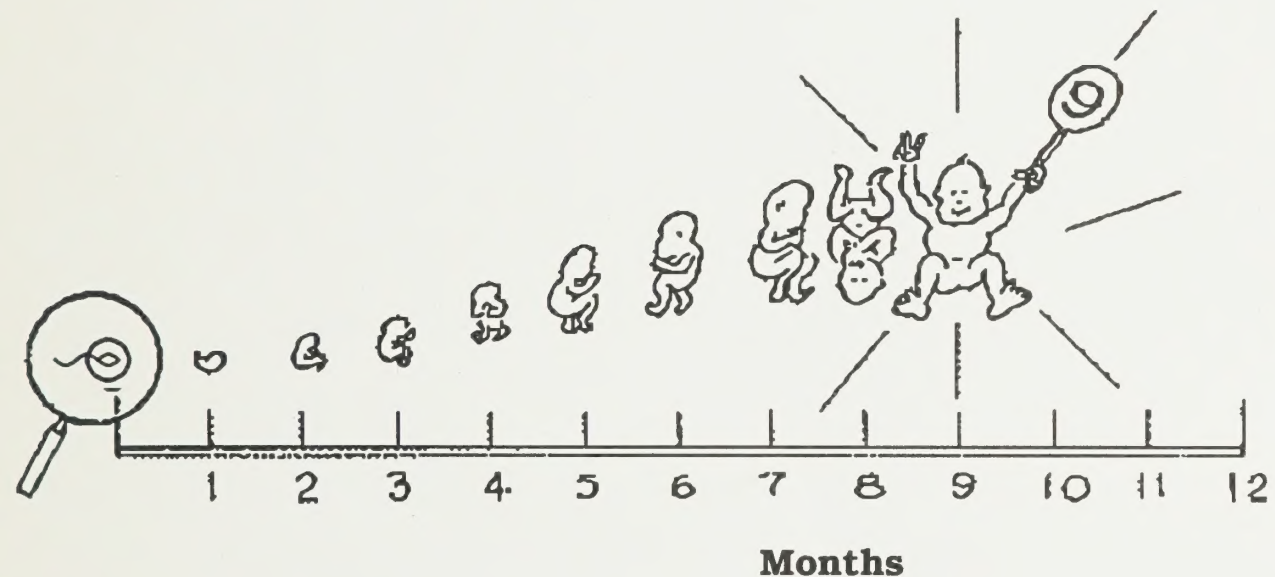


Being Sexual: An Illustrated Series On Sexuality and Relationships

HUMAN REPRODUCTION



By Susan Ludwig and David Hingsburger



Translated into Blissymbols by Claudia Wood

Illustrated by James F. Whittingham

BEING SEXUAL: AN ILLUSTRATED SERIES ON SEXUALITY AND RELATIONSHIPS

This 17-book series provides important sexuality education for young adults and adults. The clear, straightforward text and engaging illustrations are particularly helpful for people with developmental disability, problems with literacy, learning or communication, or anyone who uses Blissymbols. The content, philosophy and ideas expressed are those of the authors. Books were reviewed by SIECCAN Board members who are professionally involved in sex education, counselling and therapy and by consumers, parents and educators.

Blissymbolics Communication International (BCI) co-ordinated Blissymbol translation of major portions of each book in the Being Sexual series using approximately 150 recently-developed symbols for sexuality. Claudia Wood translated all books except for volume 4 on Adolescence which was translated by Ruth Harrington and Jinny Storr.

Blissymbols used herein are derived from symbols described in Semantography, original copyright © C.K. Bliss 1949. © Blissymbolics Communication International, 250 Ferrand Drive, Suite 200, Don Mills, Ontario, Canada M3C 3P2. Exclusive licensee 1982.

The series is co-authored by **Dave Hingsburger**, an author and lecturer who has extensive experience as a counsellor and therapist for people with developmental disabilities, and **Susan Ludwig**, a nurse-educator with the Sexual Health Team, York Region Public Health who specializes in sexuality education for people with developmental disabilities. The authors acknowledge the assistance and support of York Region Public Health during the writing phase of the project, the imaginative input of **Claudia Wood**, and the special contribution of **James F. Whittingham** who created over 1200 drawings to illustrate the series.

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HUMAN REPRODUCTION

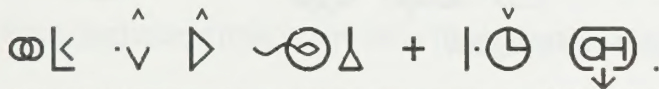
1

Human Reproduction

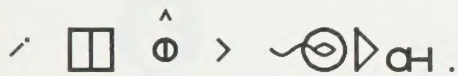


(conception + to cause + baby)

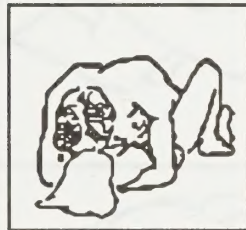
Each time a **man** and a **woman** have **sexual intercourse**, there is the possibility that the **woman** could become **pregnant** and later give **birth** to a **baby**. This book is about these events and giving **birth**. It is about **reproduction**.



Sexual intercourse can cause pregnancy and later (the) birth of (a) child.



This book is about reproduction.



Ejaculation

 $\text{L} \sim !$

(erection + sperm + intensity)

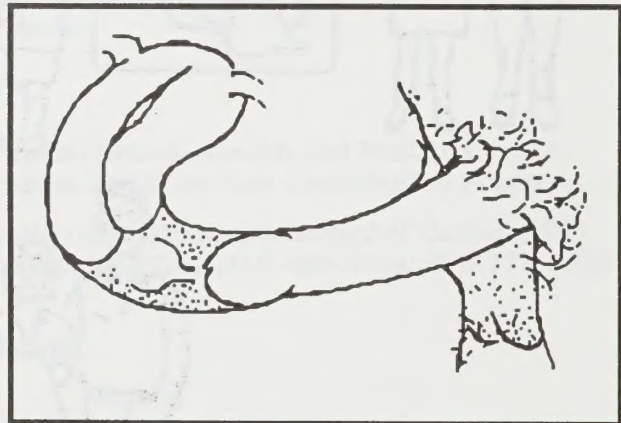
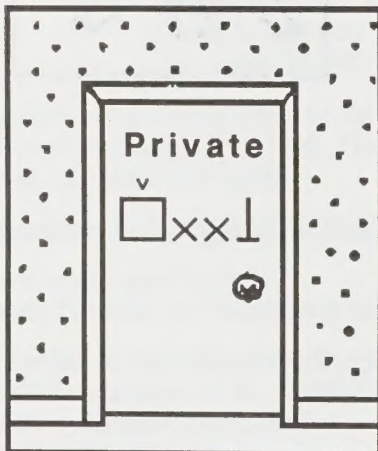
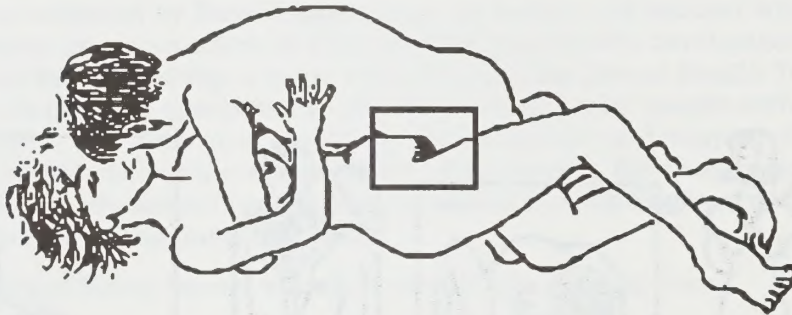
When a **man ejaculates** into a **woman's vagina**, millions of **sperm** are released into her body. These **sperm** move up the **vagina** and pass through the **cervix** into the **uterus**.

 $\lambda \text{ L} \sim ! \quad 1,000,000 \text{ 's} > \sim^* \rightarrow \square \quad \Delta + \quad (\Delta)$

(A) man ejaculates millions of sperm into (a) woman's vagina.

 $\sim^* \quad \hat{\rightarrow} \div (\Delta) \rightarrow \square \quad (\Delta)$

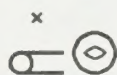
(The) sperm pass through (the) cervix into (the) uterus.



ejaculation

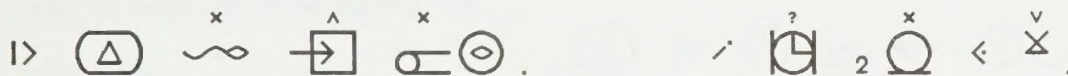
 $\text{L} \sim !$

Fallopian Tubes

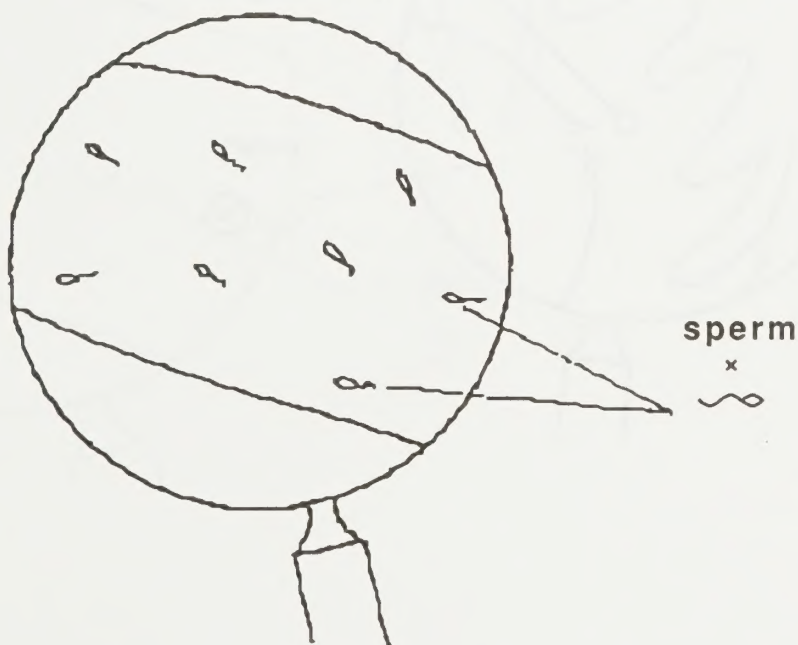
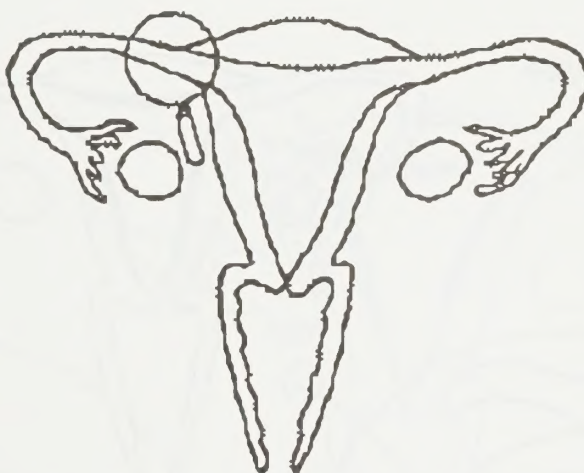
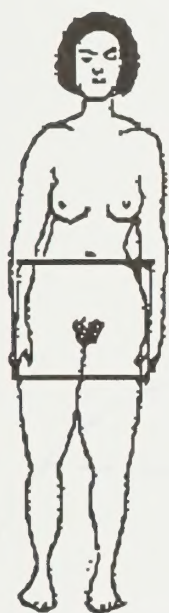



(tube + egg + plural indicator)

From the **uterus**, the **sperm** move upwards and into the **fallopian tubes**. This may take two or more days.



From (the) uterus (the) sperm enter (the) fallopian tubes. This may take two days or more.

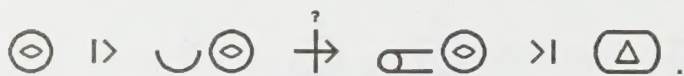


Egg

 (pictograph)

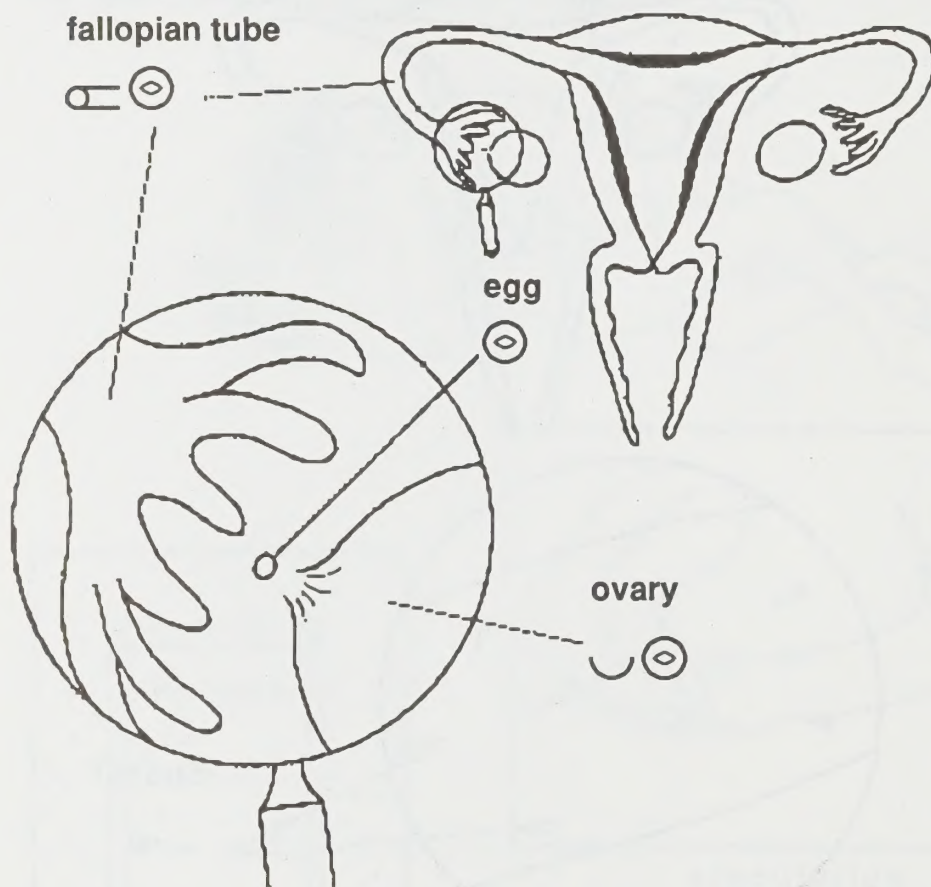
Ovary

 (container + egg)

In the meantime, an **egg** may have been developing in an **ovary**. When it is ready, it will begin to travel through the **fallopian tube** toward the **uterus**.



(An) egg from (the) ovary may travel through (the) fallopian tube toward (the) uterus.

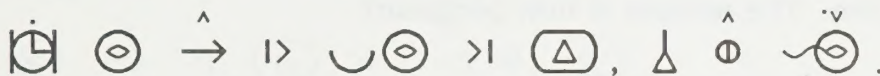


Fertility

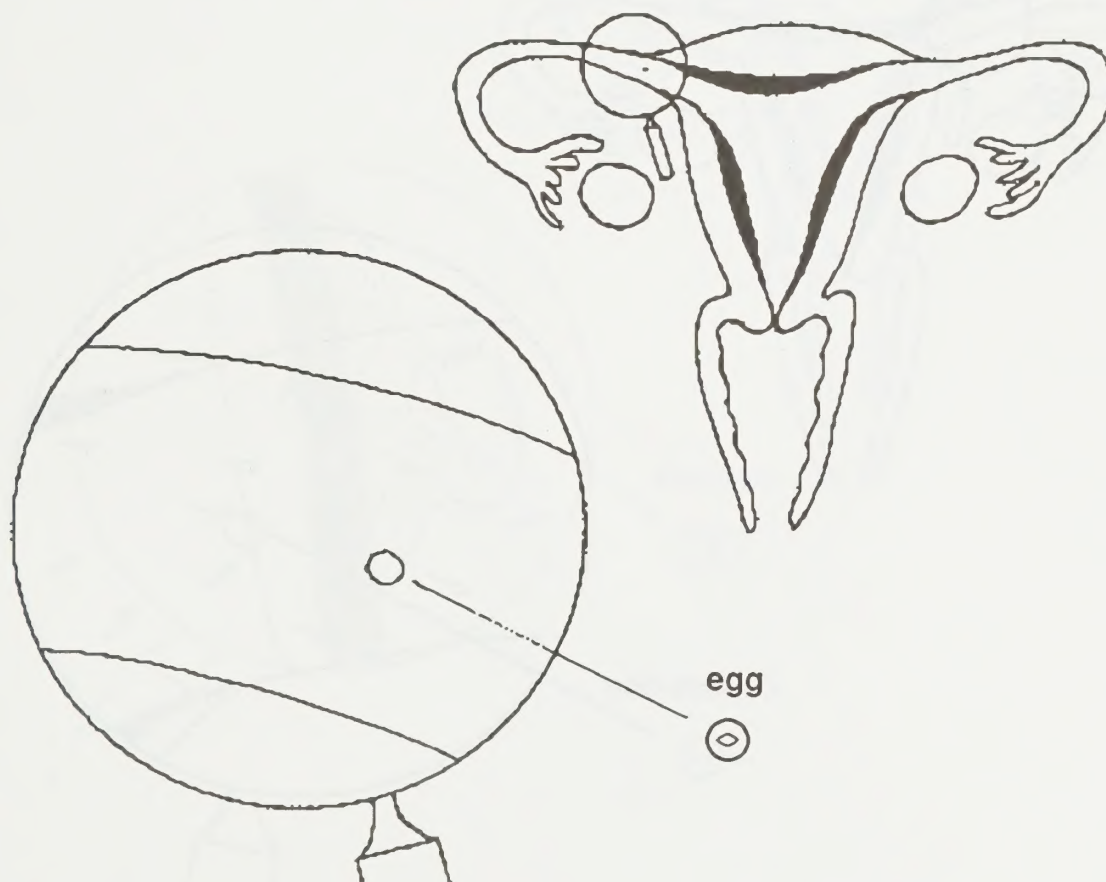


(sperm + egg + description before the fact indicator)

During the time when the **egg** is released and begins to travel in the **fallopian tube**, the woman is **fertile**. This means that the **egg** is ready to meet with a **sperm** and could be **fertilized**.



While (the) egg goes from (the) ovary toward (the) uterus, (a) woman is fertile.



Conception

(combination of sperm *and* egg)

Pregnant

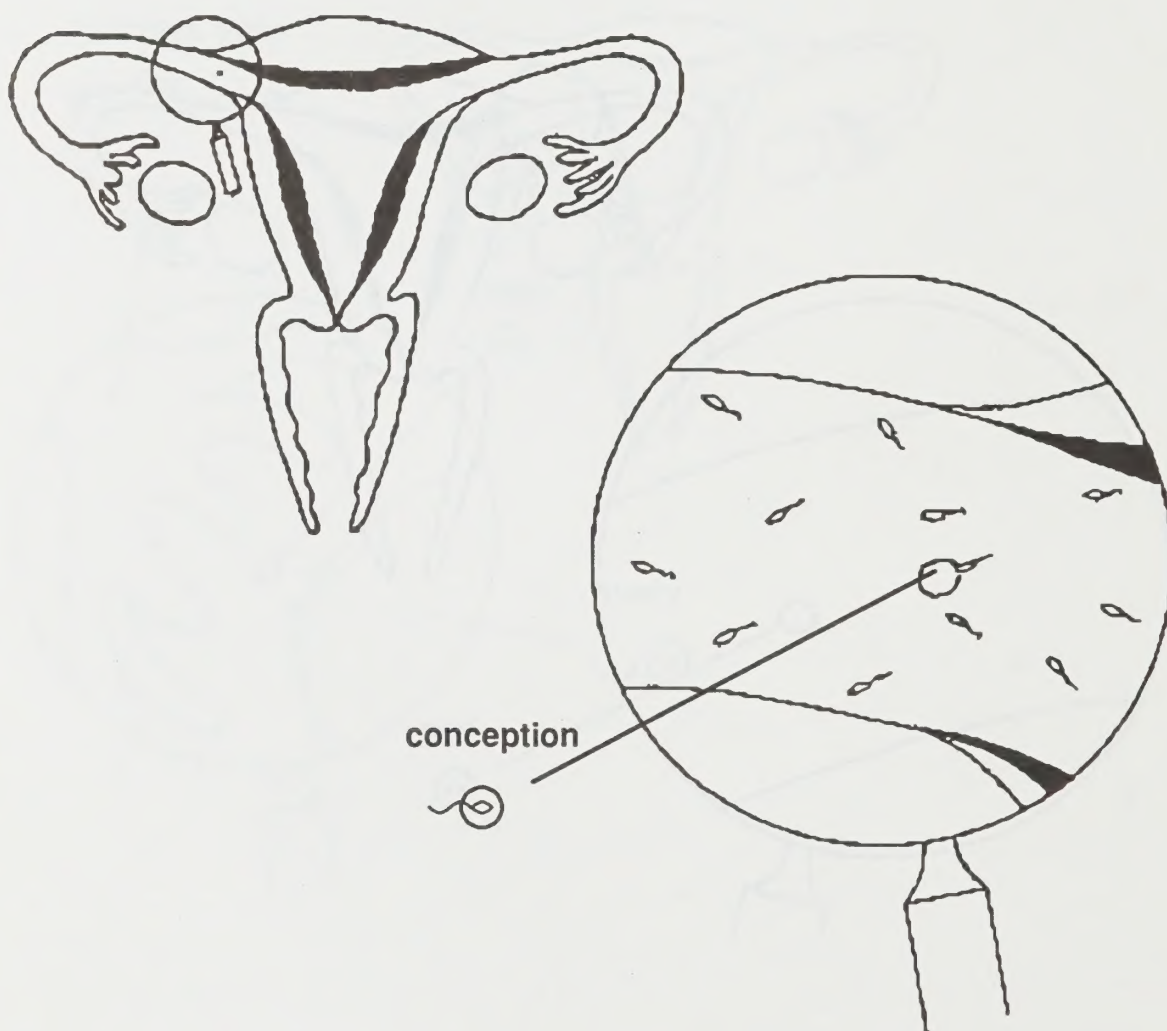


(conception + woman + description indicator)

If the **egg** meets **sperm** in the **fallopian tube**, the **sperm** will try to enter the **egg**. One **sperm** may be successful in entering the **egg**. If a **sperm** enters the **egg**, this is called **conception**. The **woman** is now **pregnant**.

?> ~~~~~ → [] ^ , Δ ^ ∅)< ~~~~~ ^ .

If (the) sperm enters (the) egg, (the) woman is now pregnant.



Embryo

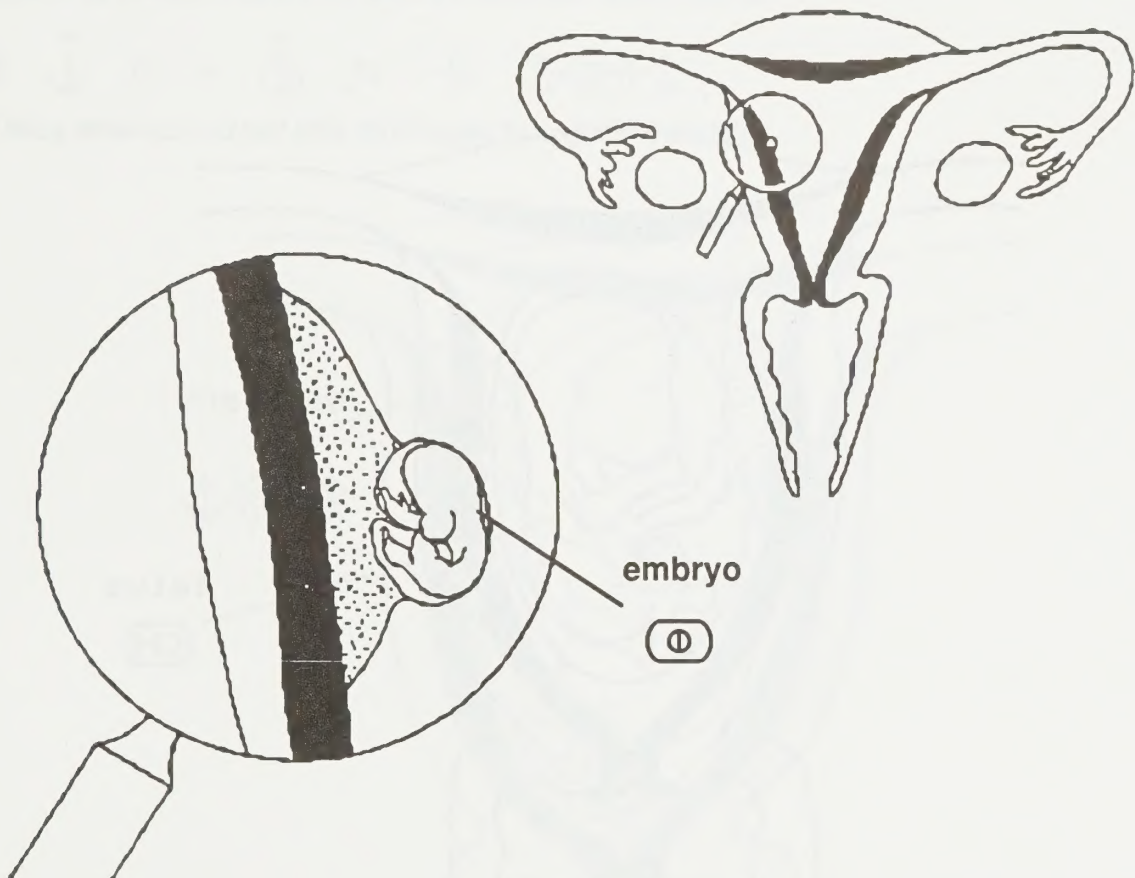


(body + life/half size)

Soon after the **egg** and the **sperm** combine, the **fertilized egg** will begin to develop. It travels to the **uterus** and implants itself in the lining. It is now called an **embryo**. An **embryo** doesn't look like a **baby**, but it develops "buds" that will later become the **baby's** legs and arms.



(The) fertilized egg travels to (the) uterus and becomes (an) embryo.



Fetus

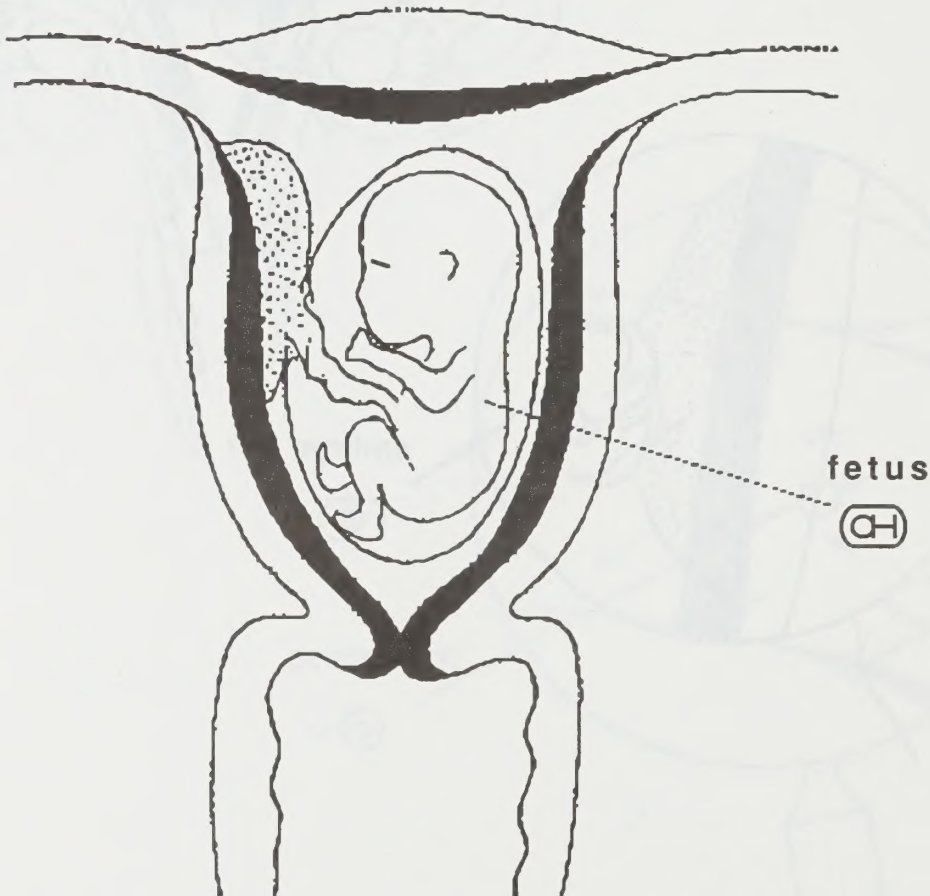


(body + baby)

After the **embryo** has developed for two months, the body parts are quite obvious. It is now called a **fetus**. A **fetus** looks like a tiny **baby**, but it needs to grow and develop more inside the mother before it can survive on its own.

| · 2 $\overset{x}{D}$ $\textcircled{\text{O}}$ $\overset{\wedge}{\rightarrow} \textcircled{\text{O}}$ $\textcircled{\text{CH}}$.

After two months (the) embryo becomes (a) fetus.



Placenta



(combination of container *and* to exchange + fetus + mother)

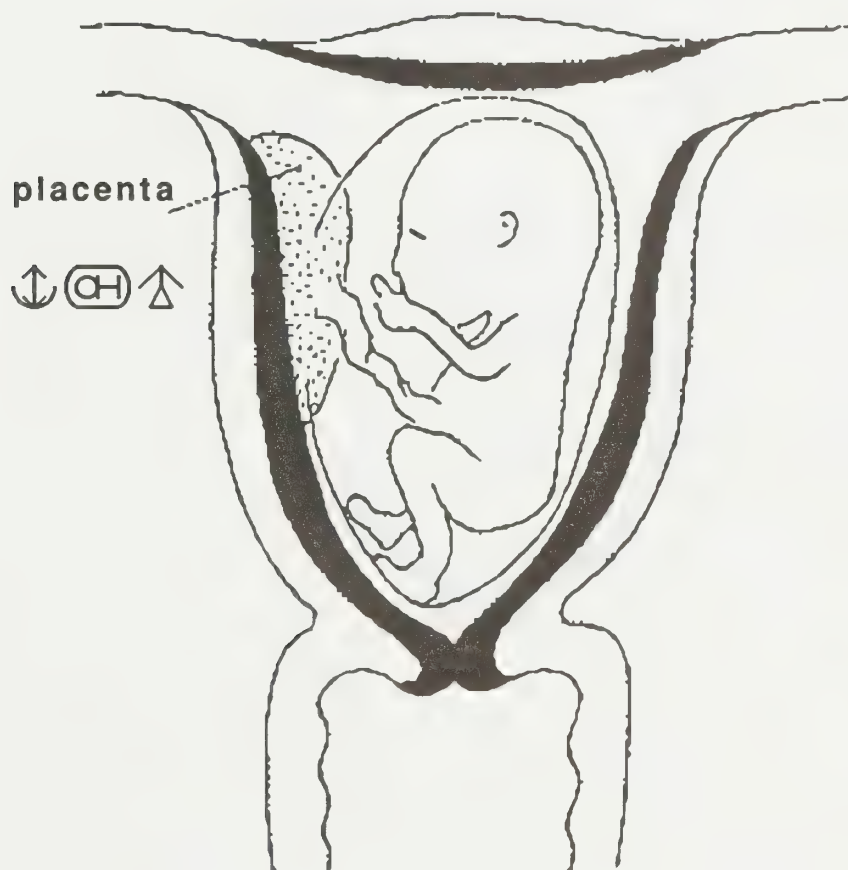
The **fetus** gets food and oxygen from the mother's **blood**. The **fetus** develops an organ called a **placenta** which is attached to the inside of the **uterus**. The **placenta** absorbs food and water from the **uterus**. It also takes the **waste** products from the **fetus's blood** and passes them to the mother. The mother's body will get rid of these for the **fetus**.



(The) placenta develops from (the) fetus and attaches to (the) uterus.



(The) fetus receives food and gets rid of waste through (the) placenta.



Umbilical Cord

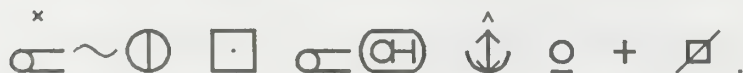


(tube + fetus)

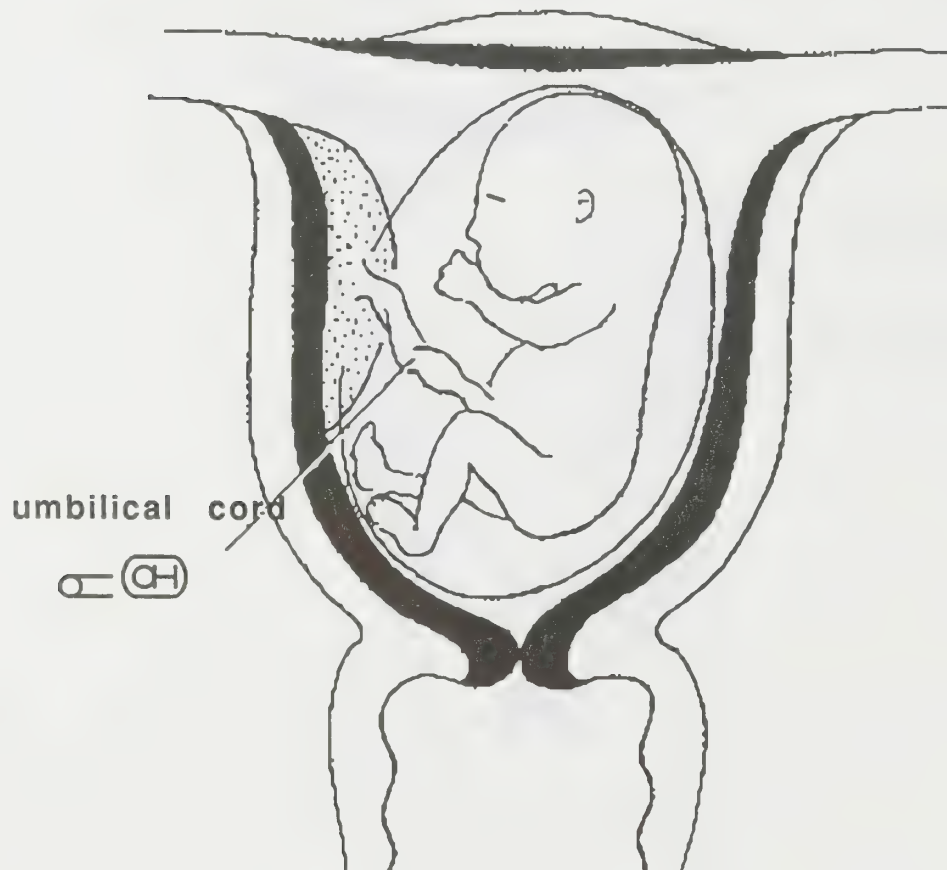
The **umbilical cord** goes from the **placenta** to the **fetus**. The **umbilical cord** has the **blood vessels** that carry food from the mother to the **fetus** and waste from the **fetus** to the mother.



(The) umbilical cord attaches (the) fetus and (the) placenta.



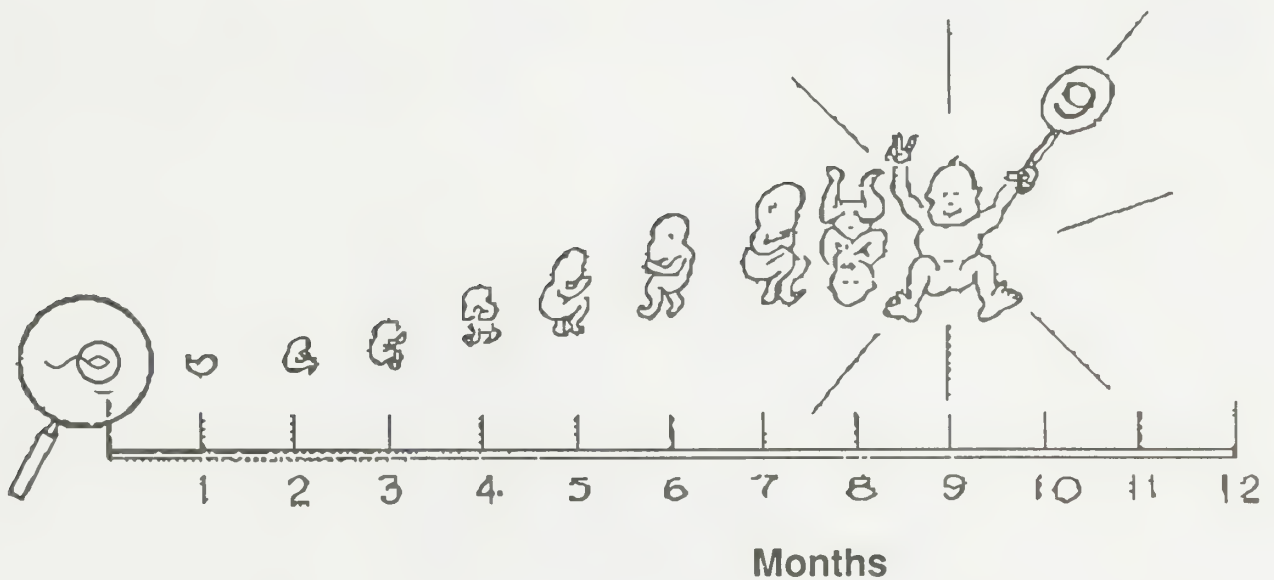
Blood vessels inside (the) umbilical cord exchange food and waste.



The **fetus** needs to grow many months in the **uterus** before it is born. A **pregnancy** usually lasts nine months, from the time of **conception** to the time of **birth**.



(A) pregnancy lasts nine months, from conception to birth.



Miscarriage



(to cancel + pregnancy)

Sometimes a **fetus** dies before it can be born. This is called a **miscarriage**. Most of the time no one knows the cause of a **miscarriage**. It sometimes means that the **baby** probably could not have lived if it had grown any bigger. Often a woman and her partner feel very sad if she has a **miscarriage**, but they couldn't do anything to prevent it.



Often no one knows (the) cause of (a) miscarriage.



Counsellor

$$\perp \odot \gg \perp$$

(person + suggestion + to help:

Sometimes a woman finds she is **pregnant** when she does not plan to be. She may decide to accept the **pregnancy** or to end it. A **counsellor** can help her to make this decision.

$$\div \odot \triangle -! \hat{\triangle} \sim \odot \triangle .$$

Sometimes (a) woman does not plan (a) pregnancy.

$$\triangle_3 \nearrow \hat{\circ} \rightleftharpoons ++ \perp \odot \gg \perp .$$

She may need to talk with (a) counsellor.



Abortion



(to cause + miscarriage)

A doctor can do an **operation** called an **abortion**. The **pregnancy** is ended before the **fetus** is developed, usually before the fourteenth week. This is always a difficult decision, but sometimes it may be necessary.



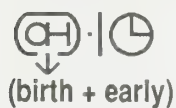
She may ask (a) doctor to do (an) abortion before (the) end of 14 weeks.



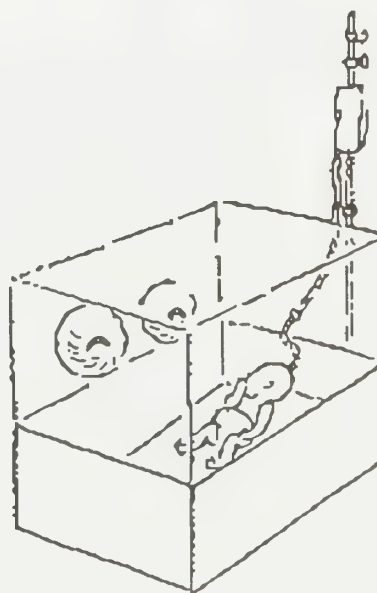
This is always (a) difficult decision.



Premature Birth



Sometimes a **baby** is born before nine months have passed. This is called a **premature birth**. The **baby** may be very small, and it may be sick because it is born too soon. The **baby** may have to stay in the hospital for a while until it is strong enough to come home.



Labour



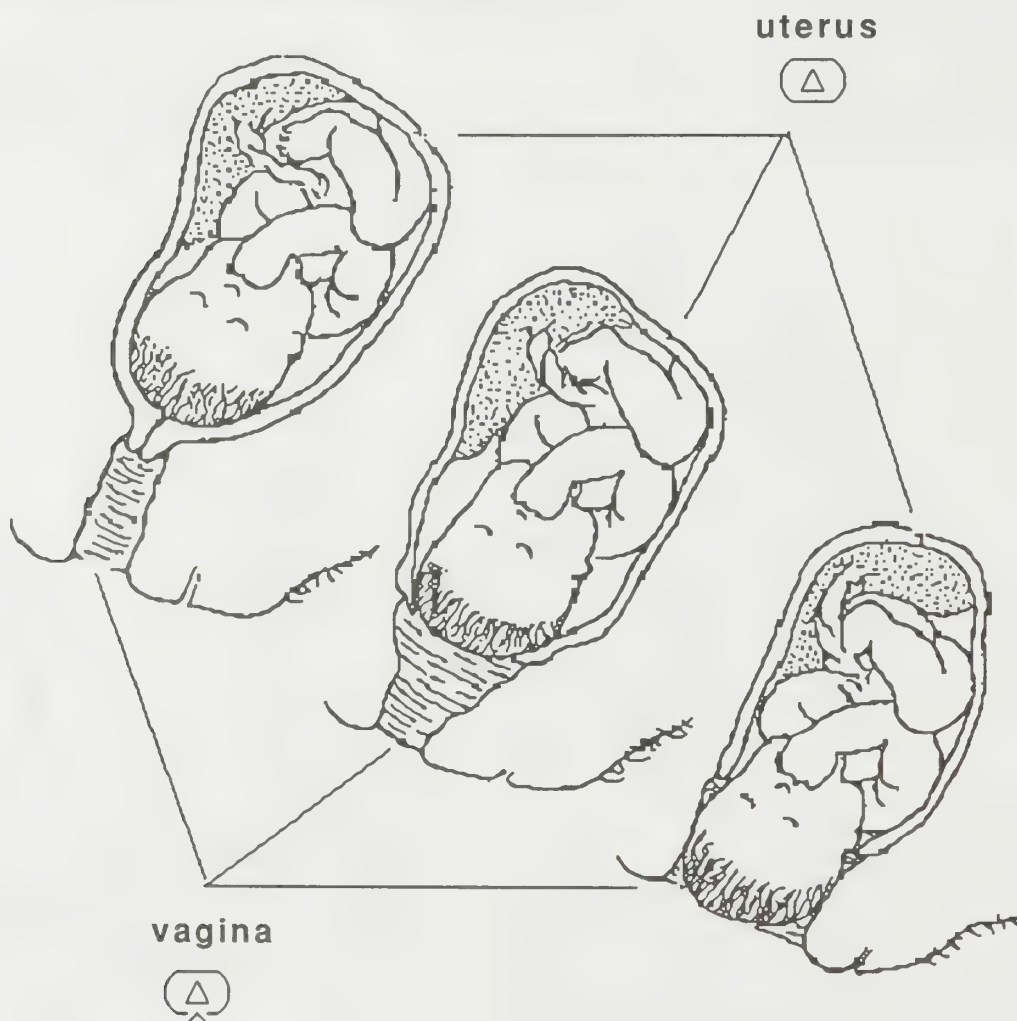
Contraction (Uterine)



At the end of a woman's **pregnancy**, she will begin **labour**. **Labour** means that the muscles of the **uterus** begin to work very hard or contract. After many hours of **uterine contractions**, the woman's **cervix** will open and slide back over the **baby's** head.



At (the) end of pregnancy (a) woman begins labour.



Birth



(baby + body + downward arrow [modified])

At the same time, the **baby** will slowly pass through the woman's **vagina** and out of her body. This is called giving **birth**. It is a very difficult job for a **woman** to do. She may need the support of her partner, doctors and nurses to help her.



During labour (a) woman may need help from others.



Sometimes a **woman** will not have a natural **labour** and give **birth** through the **vagina**. There are several reasons for this. The **baby** may be too large or the bones around the **woman's vagina** too small and the **baby** would be hurt during the **birth**. The **woman** may have an infection that could be passed on to the **baby**. Something could happen during a **woman's labour** that tells a doctor the **baby's** or the mother's life is in danger.

÷ ⊕ Δ −! ∙ ∇ $\hat{\text{CH}}$ = $\overset{\vee}{\times}$ $\overset{\times}{\Delta}$.

Sometimes (a) woman cannot give birth like most women.



Caesarean Section, C-section



(to remove + medical+ fetus)

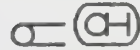
If any of these things happen, a doctor may decide to do an **operation** to remove the **baby**. This **operation** is called a **Caesarean section** or **C-section**. The doctor makes a cut in the **woman's** lower abdomen and pulls aside the muscles to reach the **uterus**. Then the doctor cuts the **uterus** and removes the **baby**.



(A) doctor may decide to operate (on the) woman, to do (a) Caesarean section.



Umbilical Cord

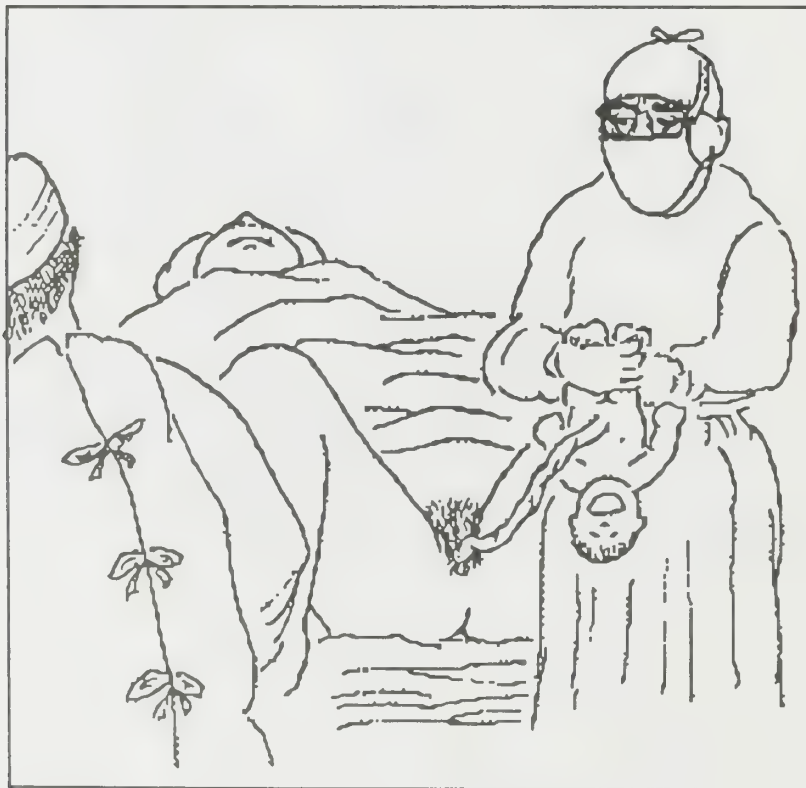


(tube + fetus)

After the **baby** is born the doctor will tie off the **umbilical cord** and cut it. This doesn't hurt the **baby** or the mother. The end of the **umbilical cord** that is left on the **baby's** stomach will dry up and fall off. The mark on the **baby's** stomach where the **umbilical cord** was attached becomes the **baby's** belly button.



After (the) birth (the) doctor cuts (the) umbilical cord.

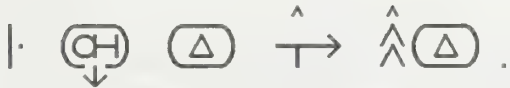


Placenta



(combination of container *and* to exchange + fetus + mother)

After the **birth**, the **uterus** continues to contract. The **placenta** will come away from the **uterus** and leave the **woman's** body through the **vagina**. It is no longer needed.



After birth (the) uterus continues to contract.



(The) placenta leaves through (the) vagina.



Uterus



(body + creation [half-sized])

The **uterus** continues to **contract** for about a month after the **baby** is born. It grows smaller and gets rid of the extra **blood vessels** that were there during **pregnancy** to nourish the **baby** and to remove waste.



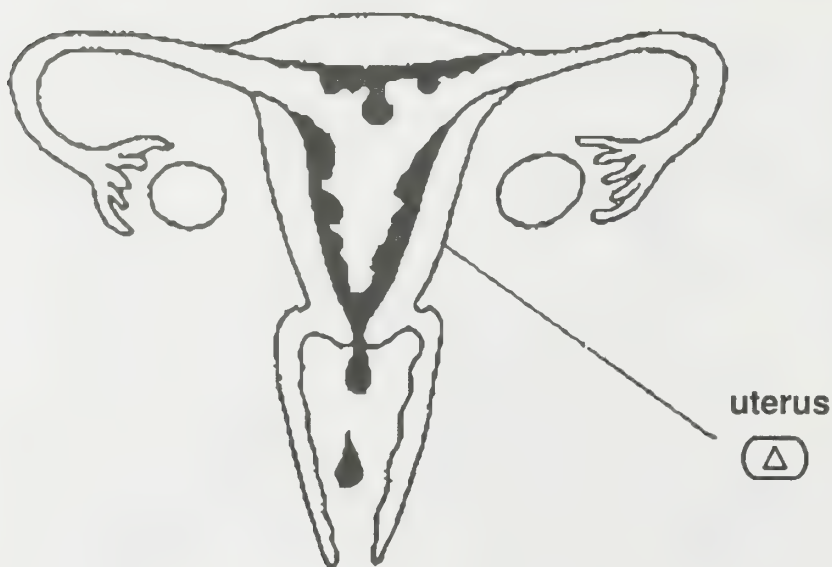


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During (the) month after (the) birth, (the) uterus continues to contract, gets smaller and sheds waste.



Vagina



(uterus + pointer, to passage)

The **vagina** becomes smaller after the **baby** passes through it. It is made to become very large to let the **baby** pass through and then to go back to its normal size.



(The) vagina gets bigger during birth, then gets smaller.



Breasts



(body + two pointers, to breasts)

Milk



(drink + life)

Soon after giving **birth**, a **woman's breasts** begin to make **milk**. She may choose to let the **baby** suck this **milk** from her **breasts** or she may decide to feed her **baby** a **milk** formula from a bottle. This is a personal choice. A **woman's breasts** continue to make **milk** only while she is **breast feeding**. At the end of this time, they return to normal.








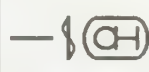








After birth (a) woman's breasts make milk.












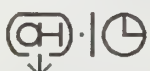



(A) woman may let (the) baby drink milk from her breasts or from (a) bottle.



Glossary of Key Words and Blissymbols

abortion (induced)		(to cause + miscarriage)	
baby		(child, turned on its side: a child too young to stand)	
birth		(baby + body + downward arrow [modified])	
blood		(liquid + life: body fluid that sustains life)	
breasts		(body + two pointers, to breasts)	
C-section	see Caesarean section		
Caesarean section	C-section	(to remove + medical+ fetus)	
cervix		(part of + uterus)	
conception	fertilization, fertilized egg	(combination of sperm and egg)	
contraction (uterine)		(work + uterus)	
counsellor		(person + suggestion + to help: person who makes suggestions in order to help)	
egg		(pictograph)	
ejaculation		(erection + sperm + intensity)	
embryo		(body + life [half sized]: an embryo is a potential living being which cannot live outside the mother's body)	
fallopian tube		(tube + egg)	

female	see woman		
fertile		(conception + description before the fact indicator: capable of conception)	
fertilization	see conception		
fertilized egg	see conception		
fetus		(body + baby)	
human reproduction	see reproduction		
important		(mind + two intensity symbols + description indicator: of intense interest)	
intercourse	see sexual intercourse		
labour		(work + birth)	
man		(combination of person and male. The symbol can also be seen as a pictograph, a stick figure of a man wearing trousers with his legs apart.)	
milk		(drink + life: drink that sustains life)	
miscarriage		(to cancel + pregnancy)	
operation		(to cut + medical)	
ovary		(container + egg)	
person		(the symbol suggests a human being standing, with feet turned out)	
pregnancy		(conception + woman)	
premature birth		(birth + early)	
question		(question mark + open: the question is open-ended)	

reproduction	human reproduction	(conception + to cause + baby)	
sexual intercourse	intercourse	(to combine + genitals)	
sperm		(pictograph)	
umbilical cord		(tube + fetus)	
uterus		(body + creation [half-sized]: part of a woman's body where new life is nurtured)	
vagina		(uterus + pointer, to passage)	
woman	female	(a combination of person <i>and</i> female. The symbol can also be seen as a pictograph, a stick figure of a woman wearing a skirt.) also female	

Combined Symbol Glossary

☺

The following symbols are normally enclosed within combine indicators ☺ to show that they are not part of the Standard Blissymbol Vocabulary. Combine indicators were omitted within Blissymbol translations or summaries for esthetic reasons and to save space.

blood vessel	(tube + blood)	
placenta	(combination of container <i>and</i> to exchange + fetus + mother: organ of exchange between the fetus and the mother)	
shed (uterine) waste products (to)	(waste + uterus + action indicator)	

Being Sexual: an illustrated series on sexuality and relationships

1 Relationships. Sexuality is explored in the context of relationships and validated as an important part of one's self-esteem. Co-authored by Claudia Wood, educator and Blissymbols Systems Coordinator. (31 pages)

2 A Woman's Body. Describes anatomy, how a woman's body functions sexually, and other aspects of being a woman. Issues of privacy and personal autonomy are introduced here and reinforced throughout the series. (47 pages)

3 A Man's Body. Describes anatomy, how a man's body functions sexually, and other aspects of being a man. (49 pages)

4 Adolescence. Describes the changes of puberty and adolescence and their influence on sexuality. (31 pages)

5 Male Masturbation. Describes masturbation and validates this as a choice for any man. Discusses fantasy as an aspect masturbation. (38 pages)

6 Female Masturbation. Describes masturbation and validates this as a sexual choice for any woman. (19 pages)

7 Heterosexual Intercourse. Describes sexual intercourse including sexual responsibility and mutual pleasuring. (25 pages)

8 Human Reproduction. Describes reproduction from fertilization to birth. Includes premature birth, Caesarian section, miscarriage and abortion. (25 pages)

9 Birth Control. Describes birth control options and suggests additional sources of information on contraception. (33 pages)

10 Homosexuality. Defines homosexuality and distinguishes it from homosexual behaviour. Suggests community resources for more information. (33 pages)

11 Sexuality and Physical Disability. Validates all people as being sexual. Discusses ways to achieve a satisfying sexual life in the presence of a physical disability. Co-authored by Michael Barrett, Chairperson, SIECCAN. (33 pages)

12 Sexually Transmitted Disease. Describes common STDs. Discusses symptoms, treatment and prevention. (30 pages)

13 AIDS. Explains how Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome is transmitted and how it develops. Defines "safer sex". (27 pages)

14 Sexual Self Advocacy. Discusses the right to sexual expression. Suggests how people in residential settings might influence policies that guarantee that right. (25 pages)

15 Sexual Abuse. Defines abuse, exploitation, incest and molestation. Describes what may happen after abuse and disclosure. (43 pages)

16 Sexuality and Aging. Describes how sexuality and sexual expression may be affected by aging. (25 pages)

17 Teaching Manual. Outlines the philosophy and potential uses of the series. Explains the Blissymbols developed for the series. (18 pages)

**Ordering information from: SIECCAN, 850 Coxwell Avenue, East York, Ontario M4C 5R1
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Ferrand Drive, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 3P2. (416-421-8377; 416-696-1035 FAX)**

